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orientation pareille dans le genre des livres poussés. Ainsi dans le catalogue de Saint-Méry figurent deux fois les *Oeuvres Complètes* de Rousseau, plus une collection d' *Oeuvres choisies*, et une collection d' *Oeuvres posthumes*; on trouve aussi *Les Incas*, et les *Contes Moraux* de Marmontel; on trouve quatre fois *Télémaque*." . . . Que ce soit d'ailleurs à eux ou à d'autres qu'on le doive surtout, il est certain que cette note rousseauiste de la littérature française s'accrut avec les années en Amérique. Le *Télémaque* en particulier demeura fort en honneur.⁶ Et si Madame de Staël joua dès le début du XIX^e siècle un rôle plus considérable que Rousseau, son maître, elle le doit probablement au caractère des *Confessions* de Rousseau, qui choquèrent les Puritains.

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FIELDING'S *CHAMPION*—MORE NOTES

The following notes¹ on the titles, the hours of publication, the centres of publication, and the early struggles of the *Champion*, in which Henry Fielding was actively concerned between November 1739 and June 1741, will supplement the materials regarding the *Champion* that I have printed in the *Mod. Lang. Review*, VII, 97, 374, VIII, 165; the *New York Nation*, January 16, 1913, LIII; and *Englische Studien*, XLVI, 355.

I. In the *Daily Post* and the *London Daily Post* of Monday, November 12, 1739, appears the following:

On Thursday next will be publish'd, for the first Time, / (To be continued every Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday / Morning) / THE CHAMPION; or, BRITISH MERCURY. / By the celebrated Capt. HERCULES VINEGAR, of / Hockley in the Hole. / Containing Essays on various Subjects, and the / freshest Advices, both Foreign and Domestick. / —Quod optanti Divum promittere

⁶ De fait Fénelon est presque du Rousseau avant la lettre, surtout le *Télémaque*. On s'en aperçoit tous les jours (Cf. Masson, *La Religion de J.-J. Rousseau* (1916), E. Seillières, *Mme. Guyon, Fénelon, Précurseurs de Rousseau* (1918).) On sait comme Rousseau lui-même estimait Fénelon, qu'il appelait avec Catinat: "les deux plus vertueux des modernes." Et il disait à Bernardin de Saint-Pierre: "S'il avait vécu, j'aurais cherché à être son laquais pour mériter d'être son valet de chambre."

¹ This article was accepted for publication October, 1917.

nemo / Auderet Volvenda dies en attulit. / Virg. / Printed for T. Cooper at the Globe in Pater-noster-Row. /

Later notices with substitutions for the first line are in these papers for November 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 19, 20, 21, 22. Several of these notices state that the first issue of the *Champion* was “distributed gratis.”

In the *London Daily Post and General Advertiser* of Monday, December 3, 1739, appears:

There having been an extraordinary Demand for the Champion, or British Mercury, of last Saturday, the said Paper is now re-printed, and may be had of T. Cooper in Pater-noster-Row.

This may be merely a “puff.”

In the *Craftsman* of April 26, and May 3 and 10, 1740, appears a long notice regarding the *Champion*, showing a change of the title, the hour of publication, and the place of publication, and indicating that it has faced difficulties:

IF NEWS-PAPERS, are only calculated to kill Time, the present Set (the *Craftsman* and Common Sense excepted) will answer that End very effectively. But, if to inform, or even to entertain is the Tenure of their Charter, a new one is absolutely necessary to save it from being forfeited beyond Redemption.

On this Presumption, a paper called the *CHAMPION*, was, a few Months ago, set up; which had, at least, something of Novelty, if no more, to recommend it. But, having a vigorous Opposition on all Hands to struggle with (Book-sellers, who were Sharers in the Profit of other News-Papers; Coffee-men, who thought they were encumbered with too many already; Place-men, because it made War on their Patron; Patriot-writers, because it might possibly interfere with their own; and Hawkers in Fee with them all) it made its Way but slowly, nay was actually given out for Dead, long ago.

And no sooner was it received with Approbation by some, and Indulgence by all unprejudiced Readers, but the *London Evening-Post*, &c. and many of the Country-Papers began to enrich themselves with its Spoils; which (tho' their Sanction may be no Proof of its Merit) argued, at least, that it was not unacceptable to the Publick.

Rather, therefore, than give Way to such Piracies any longer, it has been thought expedient to alter the Time of publishing the Paper, called the *CHAMPION*, from Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday Mornings, to the Evenings of the same Days, when it will be punctually sent to such publick or private Houses, as shall order it in, by

J. Graham, under the Inner-Temple-Gate, opposite Chancery-Lane, in Fleet-street, where Advertisements and Letters to the Author are taken in.

It will contain, as before,

- I. AN ESSAY on the Manners or Politicks of the Times.
 - II. Frequently, new Articles of Intelligence.
 - III. The News of two Days, Foreign and Domestick, stated and digested in a peculiar Manner.
 - IV. Extracts from, or Remarks upon such Books, Poems, Pamphlets, &c. as are worthy the Notice of the Publick.
- Price only THREE HALF-PENCE.

The copies of the earliest original issues of the *Champion* in the list below bear the title *The Champion; or, the Evening Advertiser*. The title would, then, appear to have been adopted in April 1740.

In my article on "The 'Champion' and Some Unclaimed Essays by Henry Fielding," in *Englische Studien*, XLVI, 365, I have noted and commented on the announcement in the *Gentleman's Magazine* of April 1743, page 191:

From the *Champion*, April 7, No. 3. *The Title of this Paper is alter'd and now runs thus: The British Champion; or, the Impartial Advertiser. And tho' the Printer is the same, it appears to have new Authors.*

So the title was again changed, a new numbering was begun (see also below), and other writers probably appeared, at the opening of April 1743.

II. It is important to list the following extant copies of original issues of the paper:

1) Library of the Historical Society of Wisconsin—*The Champion; or, the Evening Advertiser*, Saturday, August 30, 1740 (wrongly listed in the printed Catalogue of Newspapers as of May 30, 1740), No. 125, only the first leaf, leading article signed "Lilbourne" (James Ralph).

2) New York Public Library—*The Champion; or, the Evening Advertiser*, By Capt. Hercules Vinegar of Pall-mall, June 10 and 12, 1740, Nos. 90 and 91, both leading articles with Fielding's signature (see my note in *Modern Language Review*, 7. 97) "C," Printed for J. Shelley, at the Bible in Ship-Yard near the Ship Tavern; October 11, 1740, No. 143, leading article signed "W," Printed for C. Chandler, Bookbinder, at the Bible in Ship-Yard

near the Ship Tavern, without Temple Bar; May 7, 1741, No. 232, leading article signed "Janus," publisher, etc., as above; November 11, 1742, number cut off, four letters, several fictitious signatures, Printed for J. Huggonson, in Sword-and-Buckler-Court, over-against the Crown-Tavern on Ludgate-Hill;— *The British Champion; or the Impartial Advertiser*, by Capt. Hercules Vinegar of Pall-mall, August 4, 1743, No. 54, leading article unsigned, Printed for J. Huggonson on Ludgate-Hill; August 18, 1743, number cut off, three letters, no signature, publisher, etc., as above; September 10, 1743, No. 68, letters, various signatures, Printed for B. Cowse, Publisher, at the Globe in Pater-noster-Row; September 15, 1743, No. 70, no signature, publisher, etc., as above.

3) British Museum—*The Champion; or, the Evening Advertiser*, 1740, September 2; 1741, March 24, May 19, July 23, October 1, 15, 24, 31, November 3, 5, 7, 10, 12, 14, 17, 19, 21, 24, 26, 28, December 1, 3, 5, 8, 10, 12, 15, 17, 19, 22, 24, 26, 29, 31; 1742, complete to end of July, except for March 27, April 13, 15, 17, May 1, 11, 15, June 1, 3, 5, 8, 15, July 3, 17; 1742, August 10, 14, 17, 19, 24, 28.

It is to be noticed that the cut of Hercules slaying the Hydra, with Westminster Bridge and St. Paul's in the distance, appears at the head of all the issues noted above. The paper consisted of four pages, each with three columns of matter.

III. That the *Champion* in its early days did have such difficulties as are mentioned in the *Craftsman* advertisement of April and May 1740, is indicated in Fielding's retrospective article of June 12, 1740:

"... we were a long Time in the World before we were taken much Notice of, and the *London* and *General Evening Post*, two Papers of most extraordinary Merit, were read in many Coffee-Houses, where the *Champion's* Name was never heard of. . . . Notwithstanding an Opposition which was carried on in the most unprecedented, and by the meanest Methods, such as desiring Coffee-Houses not to take our Paper in, *dealing with* Hawkers not to spread it through the Town, and, if asked, to deny there was any such Paper extant, of which we have many Proofs, with many other excellent Devices known only to the Adepts of the present Age; notwithstanding all these, we have at length arrived at a Success and Reputation which may justly make us vain, When I look back on the Precipice of Oblivion (if I may so call it) whence this Paper so narrowly escaped, (our little Stock being at

one Time almost exhausted) I must own myself in a more than ordinary Manner elated with my present good Fortune: . . ."

On January 10, 1740, in an article that develops into an attack on Walpole, Fielding humorously meets the disapproval of the public:

"I have read your late Advertisement, which you would do well to insert in your next Collection of Puffs. I mean from the Stile only; for I am far from doubting but you have met with Opposition, nay, I declare I myself have been, and will still be your Opposer; nor would I have you flatter yourself, tho' I think you have sailed in the Teeth of Opposition (as the Poet terms it) to about No. 20, you will be able either by huffing or puffing to carry it much farther. I would therefore advise you to lay down in Time, and if you think you shall be ashamed or afraid to shew your Head afterwards, lest People should fall upon you for your Abuses in the Course of your Writings, even shoot the Pit, and march off as your Betters have done before you."

The supposed correspondent then declares that Hercules Vinegar's recent removal from Hockley-in-the-Hole to a more polite residence near St. James's² does not improve him; and continues:

"It is not, Friend, as you would insinuate in your Advertisement, out of any private Spleen or Pique against you that you are opposed; nor are your Opposers such as desire to establish the Characters of Authors, or set up a Paper."

I have not yet found the "Advertisement" here referred to. It obviously contained complaint of ill-treatment. It probably gave notice of the pretended removal of Vinegar to "near St. James," first indicated in the issue of December 11, 1739, when probably the words "of Pall-Mall" were first substituted for "of Hockley-in-the-Hole" after Vinegar's name in the heading of the paper.

On January 15, 1740, Fielding writes:

". . . 'till my Removal to a polite Part of the Town, the World paid very little Respect to those excellent Discourses with which I obliged them, possessing themselves with an Opinion, that nothing worth their reading, could possibly come from *Hockley in the Hole*."

A piracy by the *London Evening Post*, of the class referred to in the *Craftsman* advertisement quoted above, is noticed in the *Champion* Index of April 8, 1740:

² See *Champion* of Dec. 11, 1739, and my article in *Modern Language Review*, VIII, 165.

"The *Printer* and *Publishers*, lately taken into Custody for exhibiting *stollen Goods*, (from the *Champion*) as their own, after a proper Examination, have been discharg'd: The last on their Parole, and the first on putting in Bail for his Appearance. 'Tis believ'd however, that the Affair came to this speedy Issue on a *Compromise*: The *London-Evening Post* appearing last *Saturday Night*, like the *Jay* in the Fable, stripp'd of his *borrow'd Feathers*."

The action of the authorities against the *Post* did not arise from the piracy. The next paragraph in the *Champion* reads:

"The *extraordinary* Blot, in the last *Craftsman*, has been more observ'd and talk'd of, than any Eclipse foretold in the *Almanacs*: Some Persons believing it was artfully done, to excite the greater Curiosity (which Mysteries never fail to do) and others, prudentially, by way of *Self-Defence*."

On "Blot" is the note (Collected Edition, 1741, 2. 87):

"Over an Article taken from the *Champion*, suppos'd to be *obnoxious*; and the same for which the *Printer* and *Publishers* of the *London-Evening* were taken up."

This obnoxious article was perhaps Fielding's "C" article, signed "Vander Bruin" and attacking Walpole, printed in the issue of the *Champion* for Tuesday, April 1. No copies of the original issues of the *Champion* for the first week of this month are accessible. The collected edition of 1741 prints for April 3 a long poetical piece by * * (Ralph), and for April 5 Fielding's *Apology for the Clergy, Chapter II*, as the only other leading articles of the week. According to the *Gentleman's Magazine*, page 191, and the *London Magazine*, page 179, the *Craftsman* of April 5 contained little more than extracts from a book *Reflexions upon the Finances and Commerce of France*, judged by the magazines as not worth reprinting.—One wonders why the *Champion* was not prosecuted.

Imitators of the *Champion* are warned in its Index of April 19, 1740.

The following item in the Index of June 5, 1740, may be but "puffing": "The Clerks of the road not relishing a certain Newspaper, called the *Champion*, it is not *permitted* to visit the Country by the Post, for fear, perhaps, it should *quarrel with the Gazetteer upon the Road*."

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